

UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY POLLUTION REPORT

I. HEADING

Date: December 14, 1998

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Subject: Vulcan Louisville Smelting (Vacant Lot) Site

POLREP#: Polrep # 4

II. BACKGROUND

Site ID No.: A527

Delivery Order No.: USACE - 0055

Response Authority: CERCLA (ERB)

CERCLA Incident Category: Non-Time-Critical Removal

CERCLIS ID#: ILR000054759

NPL Status: Non-NPL

Action Memorandum Signed: May 6, 1998

Start Date: August 4, 1998

Demobilization Date: NA

EPA Region 5 Records Ctr.



229894

III. RESPONSE INFORMATION

- A. The Vacant Lot site is a 6.4-acre parcel of land located at the northeast corner of Commonwealth Avenue and 22nd Street in North Chicago, Lake County Illinois. The site is transected by Pettibone Creek, an intermittent water body that lies in a relatively steep-sided ravine, and originates at the northwest boundry of the site. The creek flows to the south on site, and then flows east to finally merge into Lake Michigan (1.5 miles from the site). Historical information indicates that the site has been utilized by nearby industries for waste

Historical information indicates that the site has been utilized by nearby industries for waste disposal. The source, quantity, and nature of the materials brought to the site is not well documented. However, reports of foundry sand and tailings deposition at the site is consistent with descriptions of materials observed on site. Numerous sampling events have been conducted at the site since 1984 by State and local officials. Elevated levels of heavy metals, chlorinated solvents, PAHs, pesticides, and PCBs were detected in on-site soil samples.

In September of 1994, the U.S.EPA conducted a Site assessment at the request of Illinois EPA. Several soil and sediment samples were collected, including samples from the location of the previous underground fire incident. Generally, elevated levels of heavy metals (including arsenic, beryllium, and lead), TCE, and PCBs were detected at the site.

Based upon the Site characterization data and the results of the Streamlined Risk Evaluation and the Streamlined Ecological Risk Evaluation, removal action objectives were developed to provide a basis for the identification and evaluation of alternatives for a non-time-critical removal action. Removal action objectives were developed for those areas of the site which were determined to exceed a risk of 1 in 100,000, an HI of 1, or for those areas which have a high potential to release contaminants to the environment.

B. Action Taken

The following actions were accomplished during the period of November 1 to December 4, 1998

The week ending 11-6-98, excavation continued in the creek area with approximately 575 yds of non-hazardous sediment and 1,100 yds of TCLP soil from the creek slopes removed. Grid 18 was completed with the removal of 935 yds of TCLP soil. Approximately 1,000 yds of TCLP soil was stabilized utilizing a 1% reagent mix. IT/OHM's regulatory specialist had conversations with the disposal site and regulatory authorities relating to the disposal of non TSCA PCB soil that had been stabilized to meet non-hazardous TCLP lead levels. The consensus was that the landfill can accept the soil if below 50 ppm PCB. Northern Illinois Gas stated that a 10" high pressure line will require concrete supports if exposed during excavation. The level of protection was downgraded to a modified level "D" based on personal air monitoring results, personal and perimeter air sampling was also suspended based on past results.

The week ending 11-13-98, and 11-20-98, completed excavation work in Pettibone Creek along with additional grids which resulted in 6,800 yds of soil and sediment being removed for stabilization. Three loads of concrete debris were removed for recycling, and 1275 yds of backfill were delivered to the site. Approximately 65% of the railroad property has been backfilled with stone and all excavation work was completed. Stabilized 1,800 yds of TCLP soil and continued off-site disposal. The main office trailer was relocated to the west side of the site to allow for continued excavation work, the support office trailer was demobilized. The on-site monitoring wells were removed since they were in the contaminated zone. A small container was uncovered during the excavation releasing less than 1 gallon of an acid type liquid, the area was neutralized and the soil excavated and added to the disposal pile.

The site was shut down over the Thanksgiving Holiday

The week ending 12-4-98, completed backfilling of the railroad property with stone, final grading will occur at a later time. Approximately 773 yds of the non-TSCA PCB soil was shipped for disposal this week, along with 50 tons of stumps and debris. An additional 550 yds of soil was excavated from the PCB area, and 2,303 yds of non-hazardous lead soil was sent for disposal. Approximately 4,350 yds of TCLP lead soil were stabilized.

To date 7,414 yards of non-hazardous lead soils have been excavated, 14,505 yards of TCLP lead soils excavated, 1,150 yards of PCB/TCLP lead soils excavated, and 85 yards of PCE soils excavated. Stabilization to date is at 16,721 tons. To date 23,840 tons of non-hazardous/treated soils have been transported for disposal, and 9,120 yards of backfill material have been delivered to the site.

IV. NEXT STEPS

Continue soil excavation, and disposal of stockpile.

Continue disposal of concrete which is encountered during excavation work.

Continue excavation and stockpiling of PCB/TCLP lead soils.

Continue treatment of TCLP lead soils utilizing RMT phosphate process

Continue verification sampling and backfilling of clean areas

V. ISSUES

Investigating options with regard to the high pressure gas line on site. Due to the extreme safety hazard of excavating around the line a decision may be made to forego any excavation near the gas line.

VI. COST TO DATE as of 12/07/98

Subject	Amount Budgeted	Amount Used	Amount Remaining
U.S. EPA	\$ NA	\$	\$
U.S. ACE	\$ NA	\$	\$
OHM	\$2,100,639.00	\$ 1,943,250	\$ 157,389.00

TOTAL	\$2,100,639.00	\$ 1,943,250	\$ 157,389.00
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VII. WASTE DISPOSAL SUMMARY

<u>Wastestream</u>	<u>Quantity</u>	<u>Manifest #</u>	<u>Disposal</u>
Non-haz soil	8,434 tons		BFI Landfill Zion, IL
Non-haz soil	13,103 tons		Kestrel Hawk Park Landfill Racine, WI